



INDRA AND SHACHI

THE LORD OF HEAVEN AND HIS DEVOTED WIFE

Vol 567





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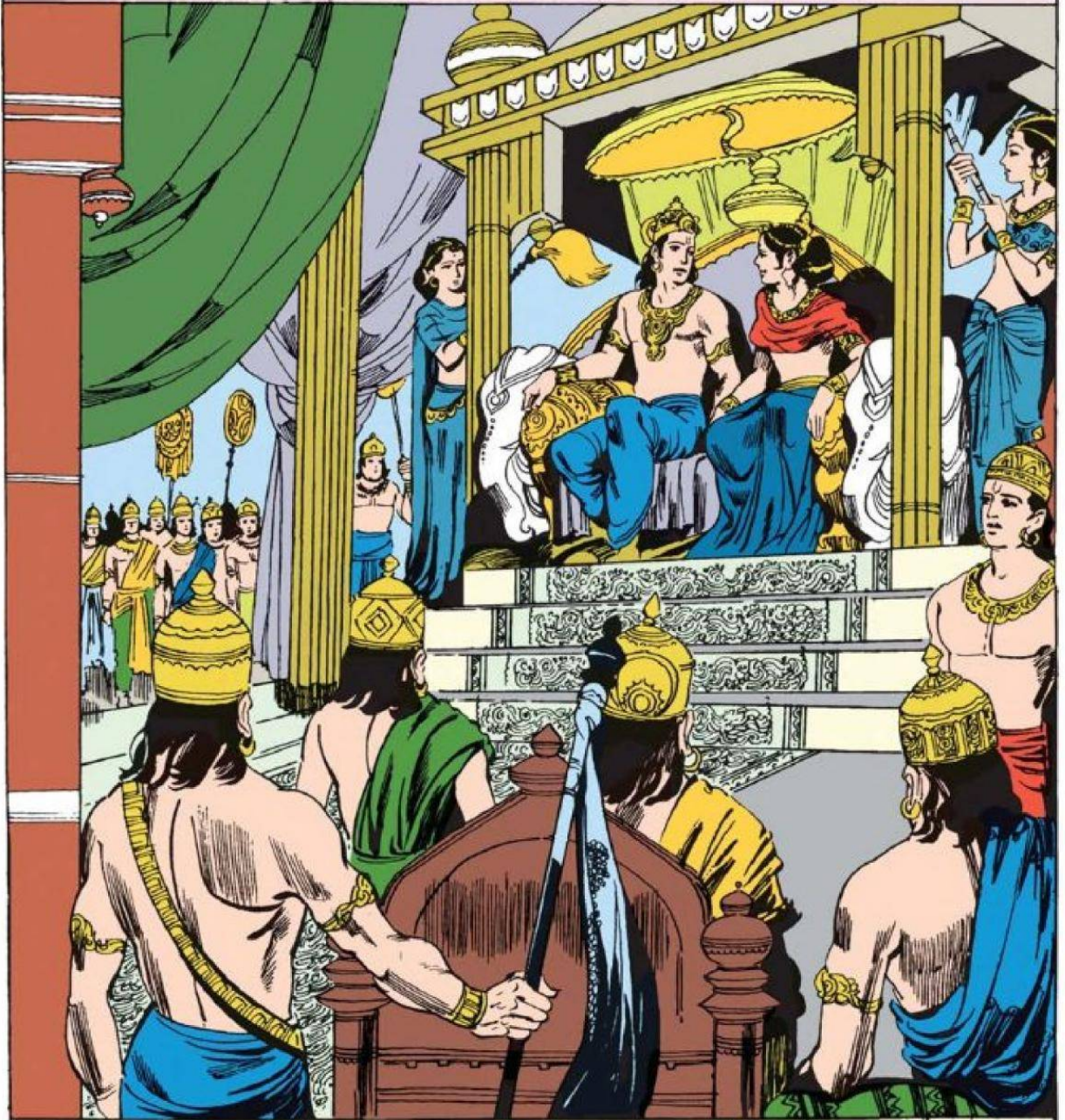
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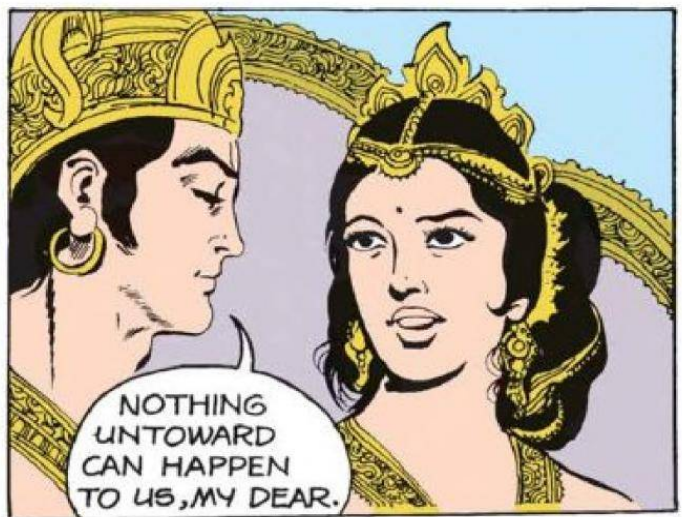
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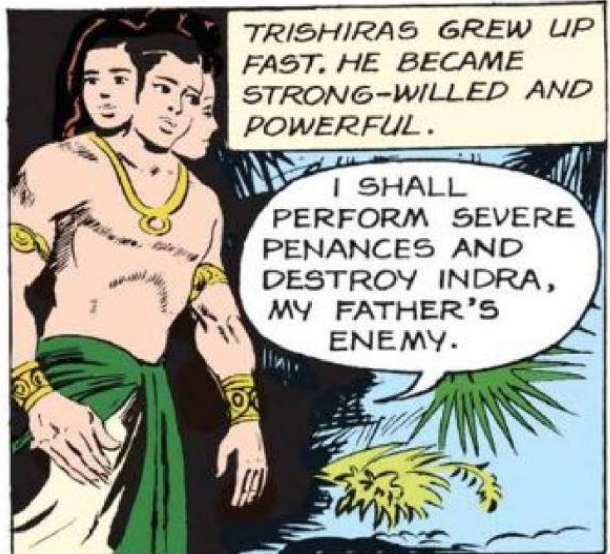
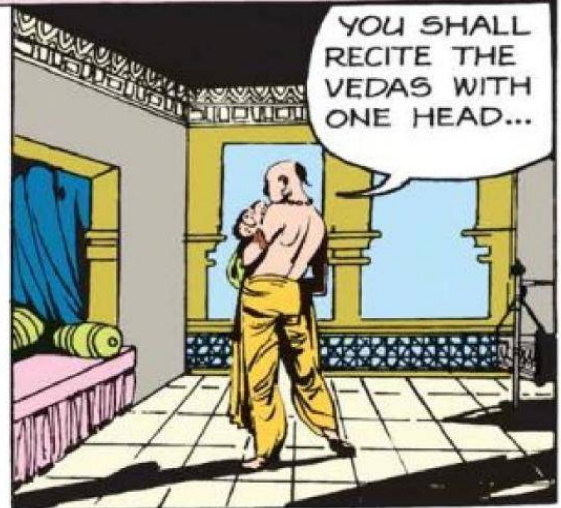
INDRA AND SHACHI



INDRA WAS THE KING OF THE DEVAS. HE LIVED WITH HIS QUEEN, SHACHI IN HIS CELESTIAL CITY, AMARAVATI.



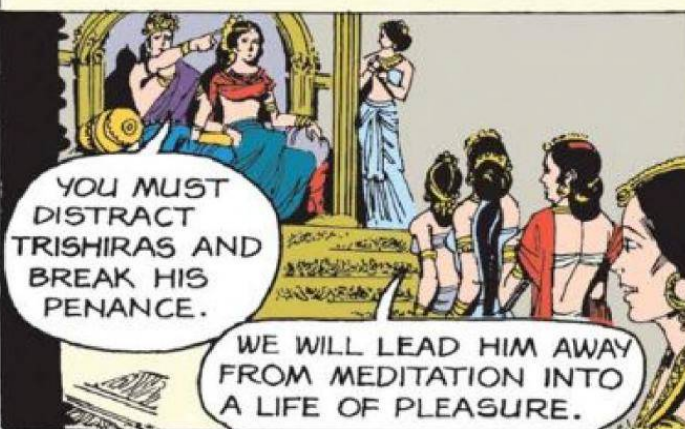
BUT THERE WAS CAUSE FOR THEM TO FEAR. AT THAT VERY MOMENT A SON WAS BORN TO TVASHTA, INDRA'S ENEMY.



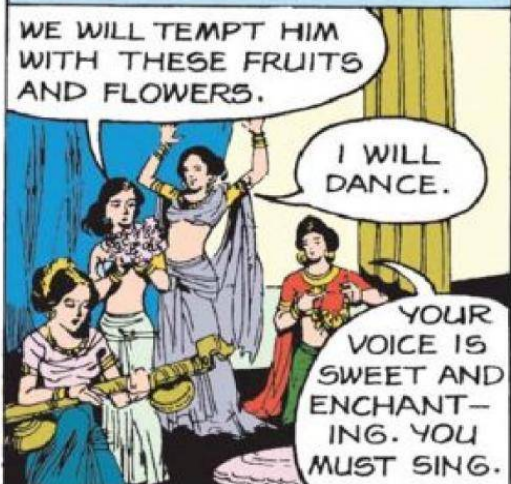
TRISHIRAS GREW UP FAST. HE BECAME STRONG-WILLED AND POWERFUL.

I SHALL PERFORM SEVERE PENANCES AND DESTROY INDRA, MY FATHER'S ENEMY.

INDRA HEARD OF TRISHIRAS AND OF HIS INTENSE PENANCE TO DESTROY HIM. HE SENT FOR THE APSARAS, THE CELESTIAL MAIDENS...



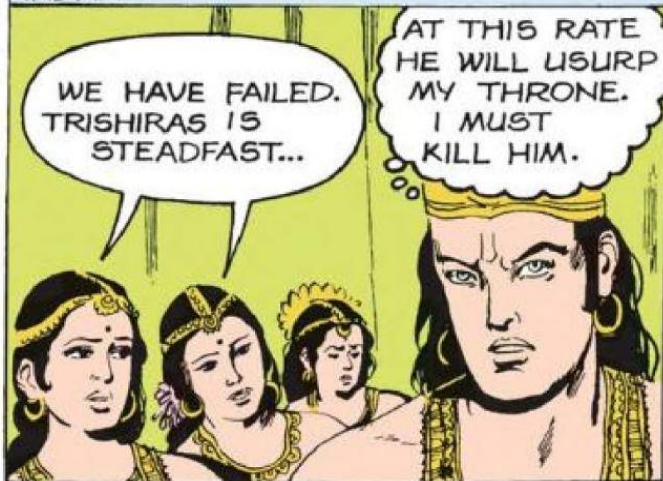
THE APSARAS PREPARED THEMSELVES.



THEIR CHARMS WERE HEAVENLY. BUT TRISHIRAS WAS UNMOVED.



THE APSARAS RETURNED TO INDRA.



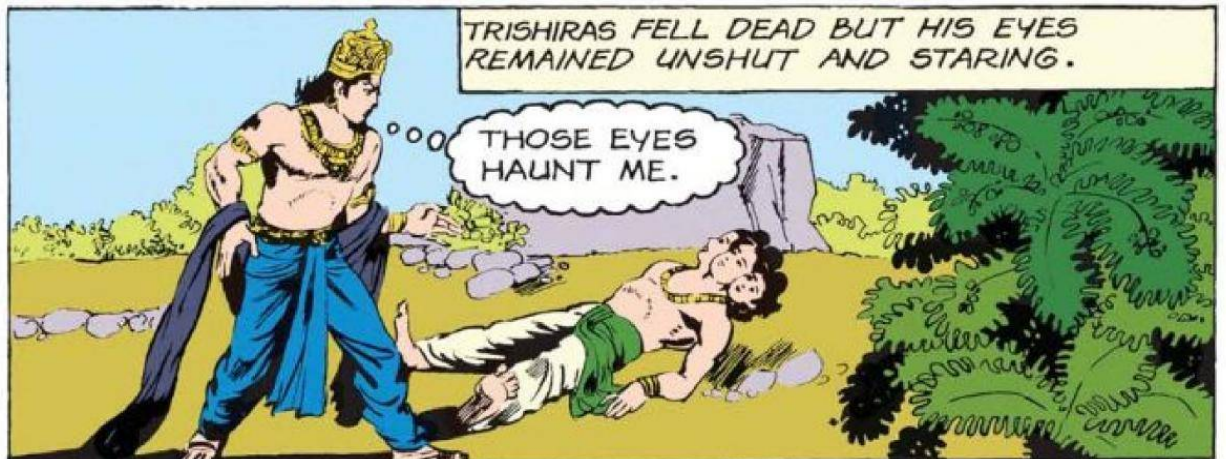
SHACHI WAS WORRIED.

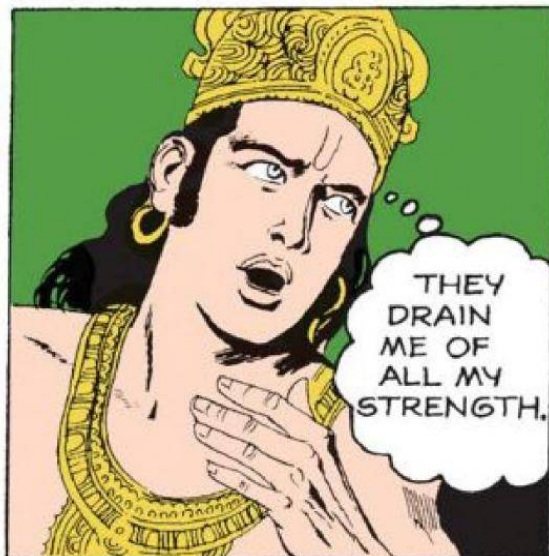
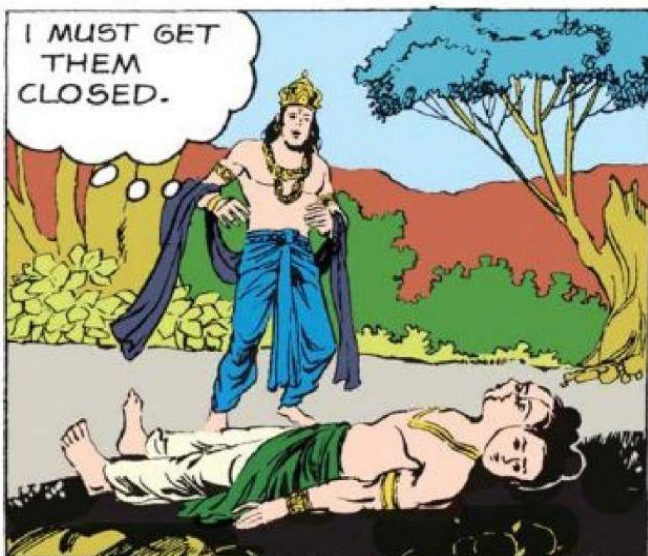


INDRA THREW HIS THUNDERBOLT AT TRISHIRAS WHILE HE WAS PRAYING.

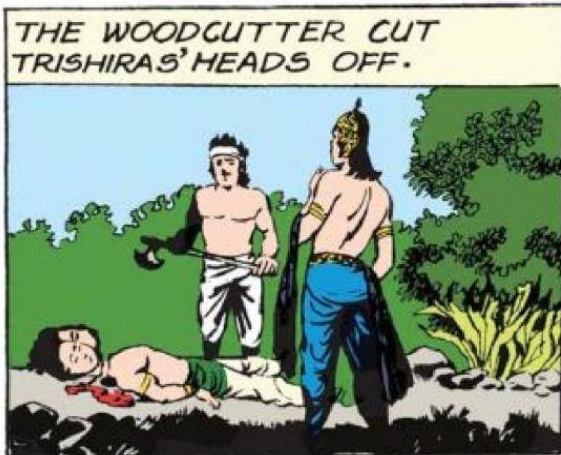
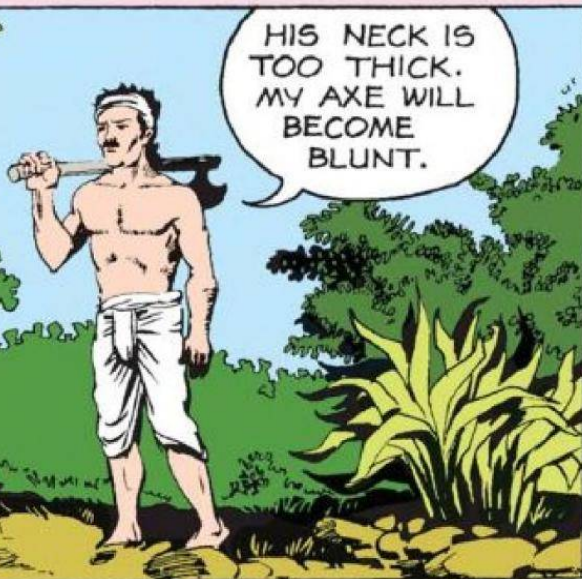


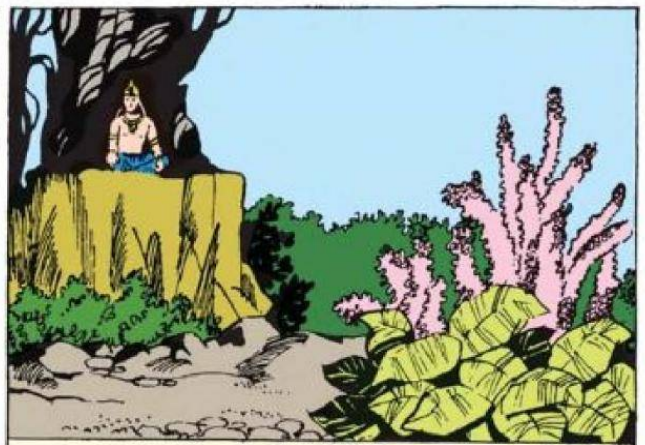
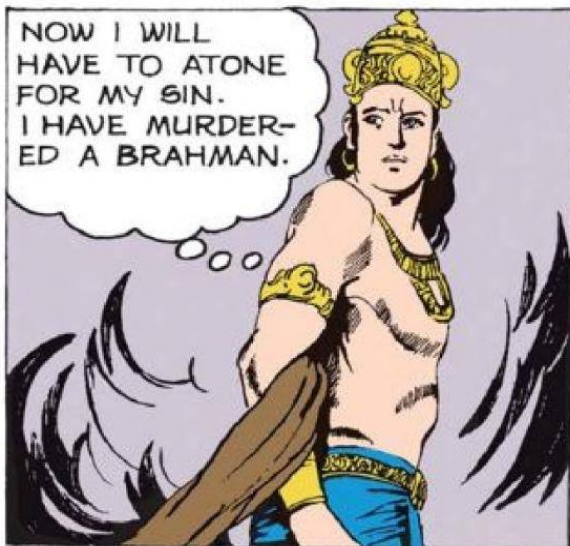
TRISHIRAS FELL DEAD BUT HIS EYES REMAINED UNSHUT AND STARING.





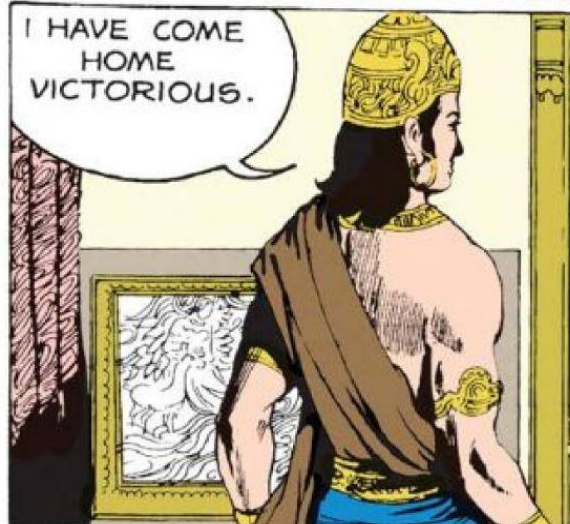
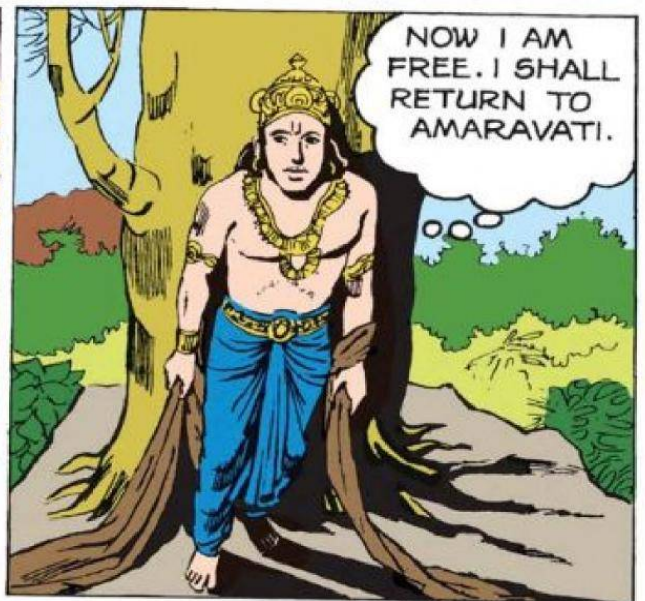
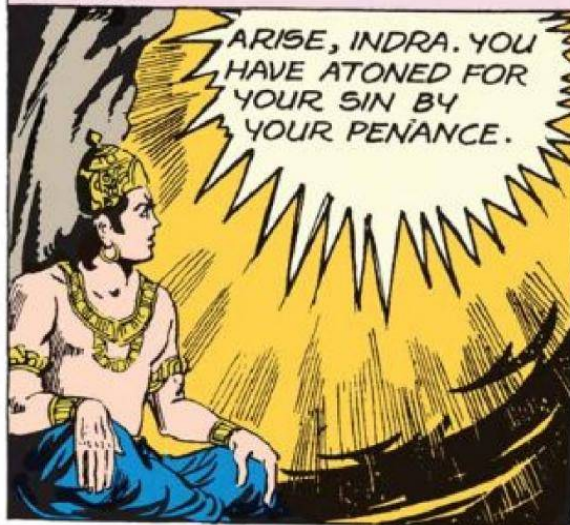
AT THAT MOMENT A WOODCUTTER HAPPENED TO PASS BY.





INDRA DID PENANCE FOR A LONG TIME.

FINALLY, A DIVINE VOICE SPOKE TO HIM.



MEANWHILE TVASHTA HEARD OF TRISHIRAS' DEATH. HE WAS DEEPLY GRIEVED AND VERY ANGRY.

I SHALL AVENGE MY SON'S DEATH. FROM THE POWER OF MY PRAYERS...

... SHALL RISE AN ASURA.

TVASHTA PERFORMED A SACRIFICE AND CREATED AN ASURA.

YOU ARE VRITRA. GO FORTH AND KILL INDRA.

WHEN INDRA HEARD OF VRITRA, HE PREPARED TO MEET THE CHALLENGE.

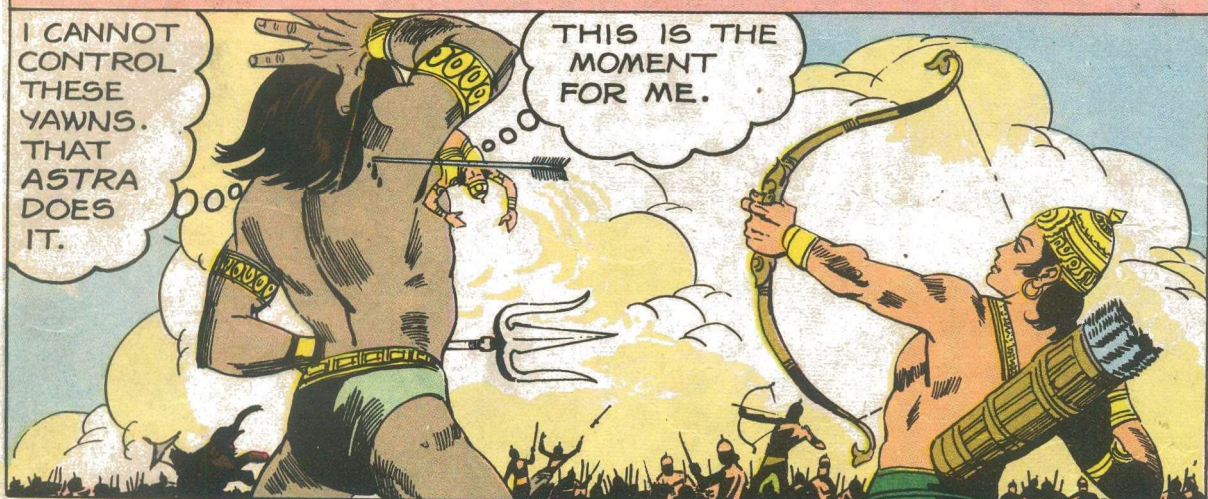
VRITRA HAS COME TO AVENGE TRISHIRAS.

I KNEW NO GOOD WOULD COME OF KILLING TRISHIRAS.

THERE WAS A TERRIBLE BATTLE IN WHICH VRITRA CAUGHT INDRA BETWEEN HIS TEETH.



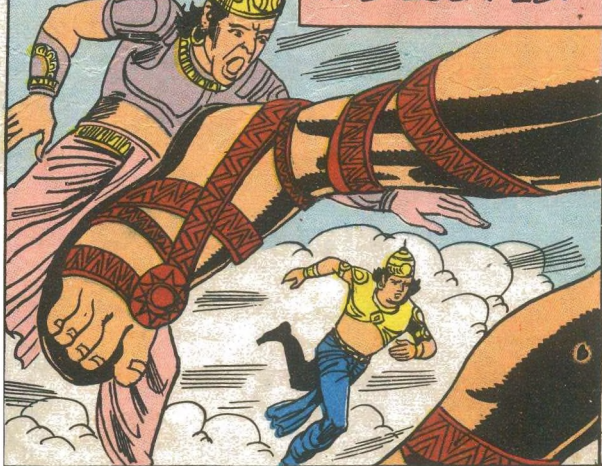
THE JIRIMBHAKA ASTRA FOUND ITS MARK.



VRITRA YAWNED...



INDRA MADE HIMSELF TINY AND ESCAPED.

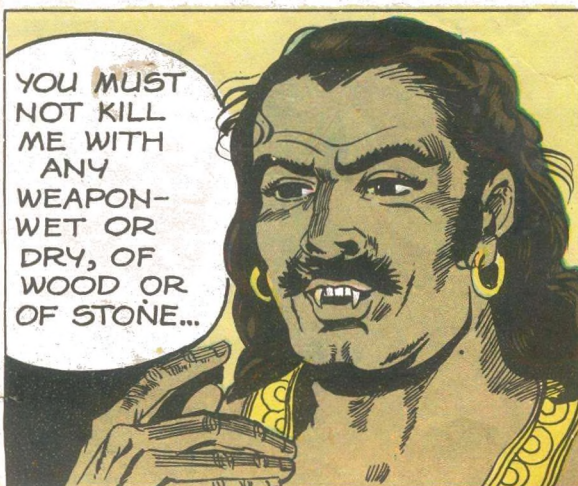


* AN ARROW WHICH MAKES A MAN YAWN.

HE AND HIS SUBJECTS WENT TO VISHNU FOR ADVICE.



INDRA MADE PEACE WITH VRITRA. BUT VRITRA WAS WARY.



ONE EVENING THEY WERE ON THE SEA-SHORE.

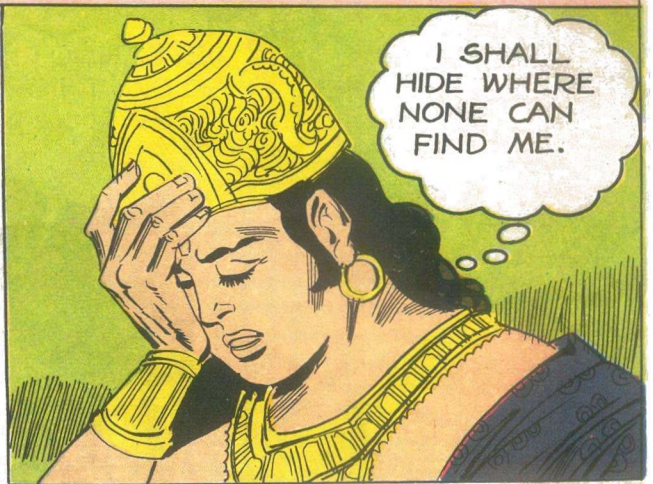
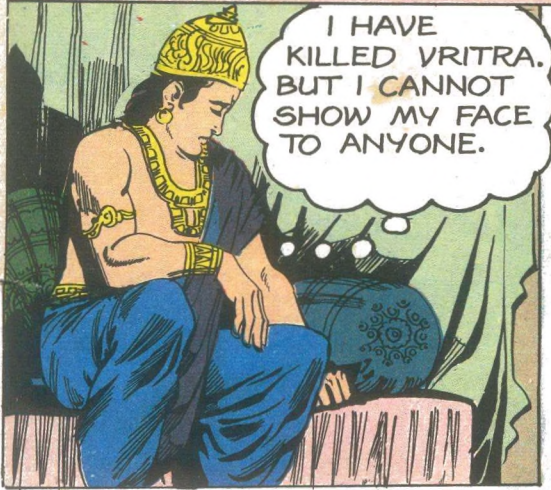
I MUST KILL HIM SOON -BUT WITHOUT USING A WEAPON.

FOAM CANNOT BE CONSIDERED A WEAPON. VISHNU HAS PROMISED TO HELP ME.

THIS TWILIGHT IS NEITHER NIGHT NOR DAY. FOAM IS NEITHER WET NOR DRY. VISHNU, HELP ME!

VISHNU ENTERED THE FOAM AND WHEN INDRA THREW IT AT VRITRA, HE WAS KILLED IMMEDIATELY BY THE POWER OF VISHNU WITHIN IT.

BUT AS INDRA HAD BETRAYED VRITRA HE WAS ASHAMED TO FACE THE WORLD.



INDRA RAN AWAY. ALL WAS DARKNESS AND CHAOS, ON EARTH AND IN HEAVEN.



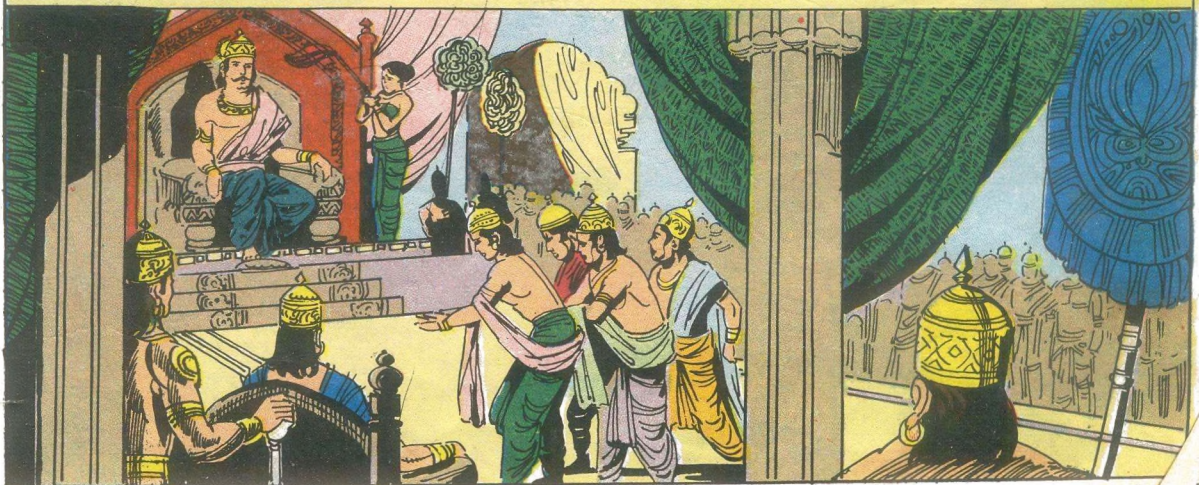
THE DEVAS MET IN A COUNCIL.



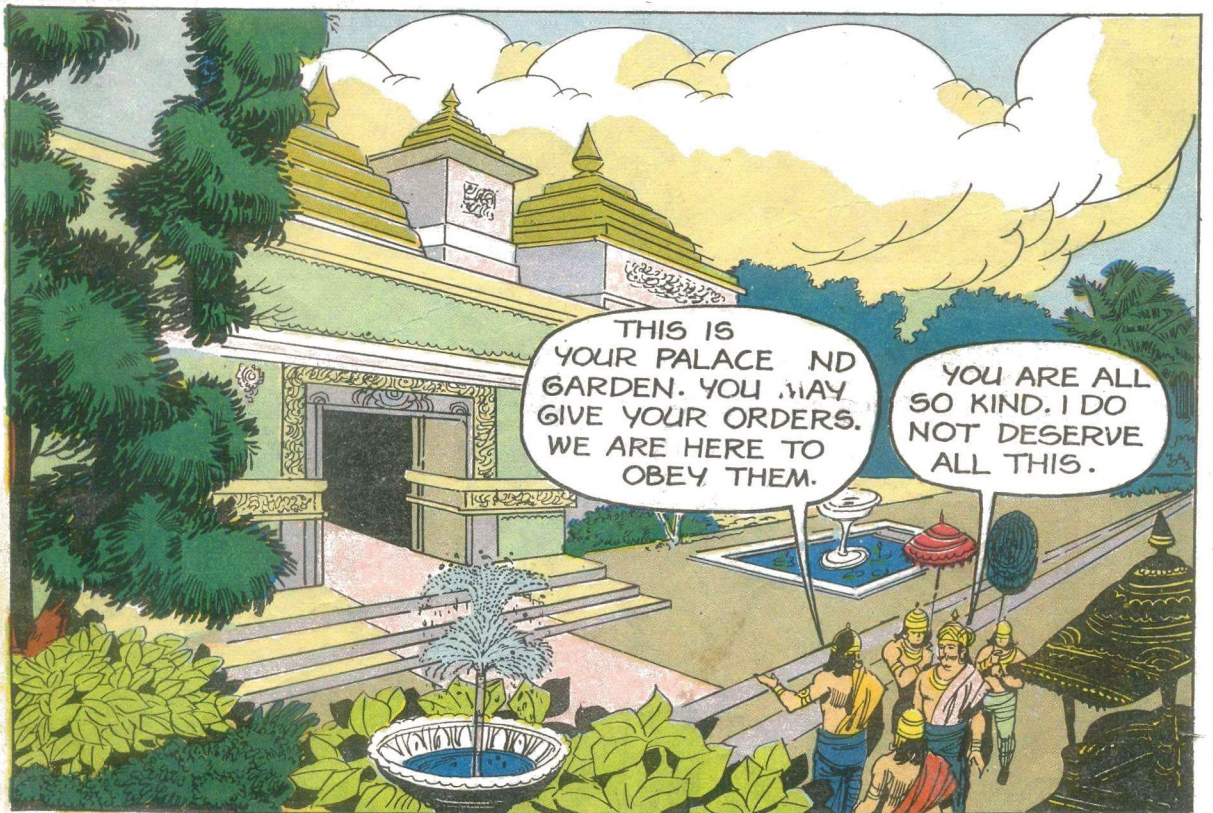
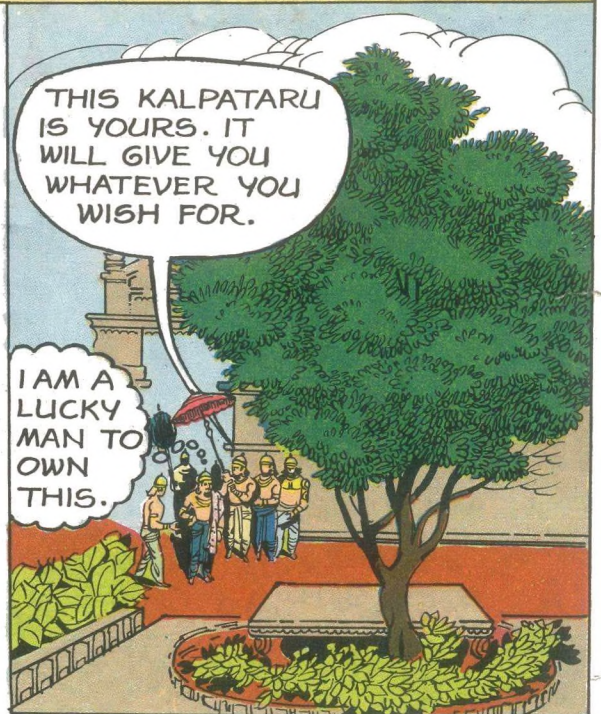
THE DEVAS WENT TO KING NAHUSHA'S COURT.



THE DEVAS MADE NAHUSHA THEIR KING.



NAHUSHA ENJOYED ALL THE CELESTIAL PLEASURES.



SO, PROMPTED BY BRIHASPATI, SHACHI WENT WITH THE DEVAS TO NAHUSHA.

FIRST LET US SEARCH FOR MY LORD. IF HE CANNOT BE FOUND I SHALL BECOME YOUR QUEEN.

THAT IS REASONABLE. I AGREE.



THE DEVAS THEN WENT TO VISHNU FOR ADVICE.

WE MUST RESCUE OUR QUEEN. TELL US WHAT WE SHOULD DO NOW!

FIND OUT INDRA AND MAKE HIM PERFORM AN ASHWAMEDHA TO ATONE FOR THE SIN OF KILLING VRITRA, BY DECEIT.



AGNI, THE FIRE-GOD, LED THE SEARCH FOR INDRA.

COME ON! WE WILL FIND HIM SOMEHOW.

YES, HE MUST BE FOUND.



AT LAST THEY FOUND INDRA.



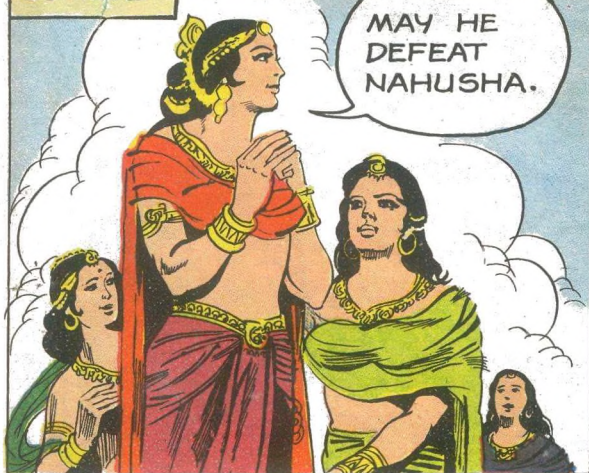
INDRA PERFORMED THE ASHWAMEDHA...



... AND THEN SET OUT TO CHALLENGE NAHUSHA.

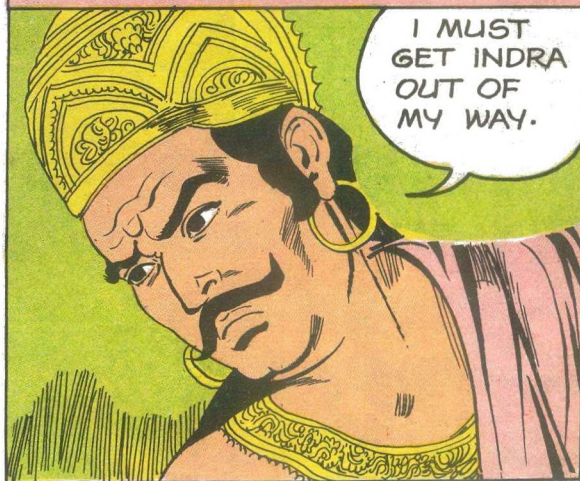


SHACHI HEARD THAT INDRA WAS COMING.



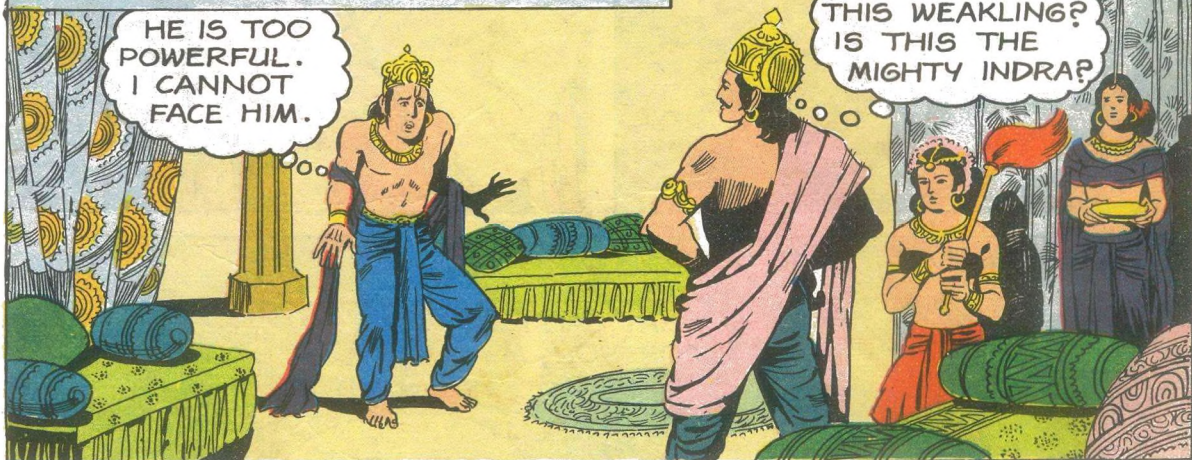
MAY HE DEFEAT NAHUSHA.

SO DID NAHUSHA.



I MUST GET INDRA OUT OF MY WAY.

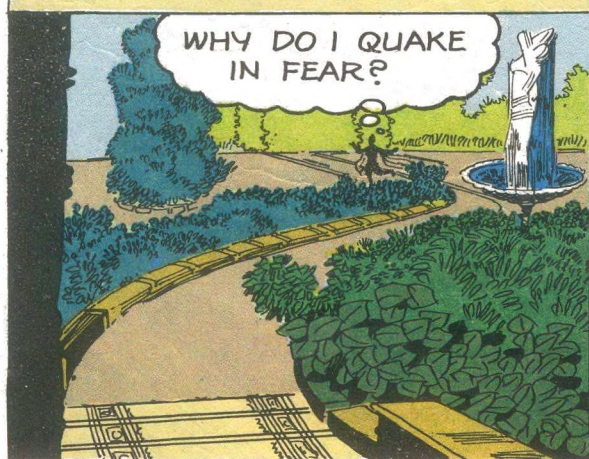
INDRA CONFRONTED NAHUSHA.



HE IS TOO POWERFUL. I CANNOT FACE HIM.

THIS WEAKLING? IS THIS THE MIGHTY INDRA?

INDRA RAN AWAY.



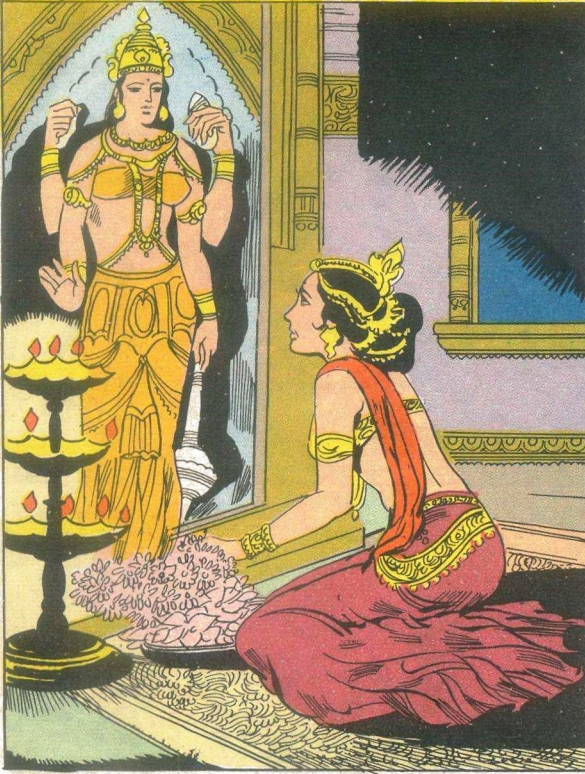
WHY DO I QUAKE IN FEAR?

SHACHI WEPT.



I WOULD GIVE MY LIFE TO HELP HIM.

SHACHI PRAYED TO UPASHRUTI, A GODDESS OF THE NIGHT.

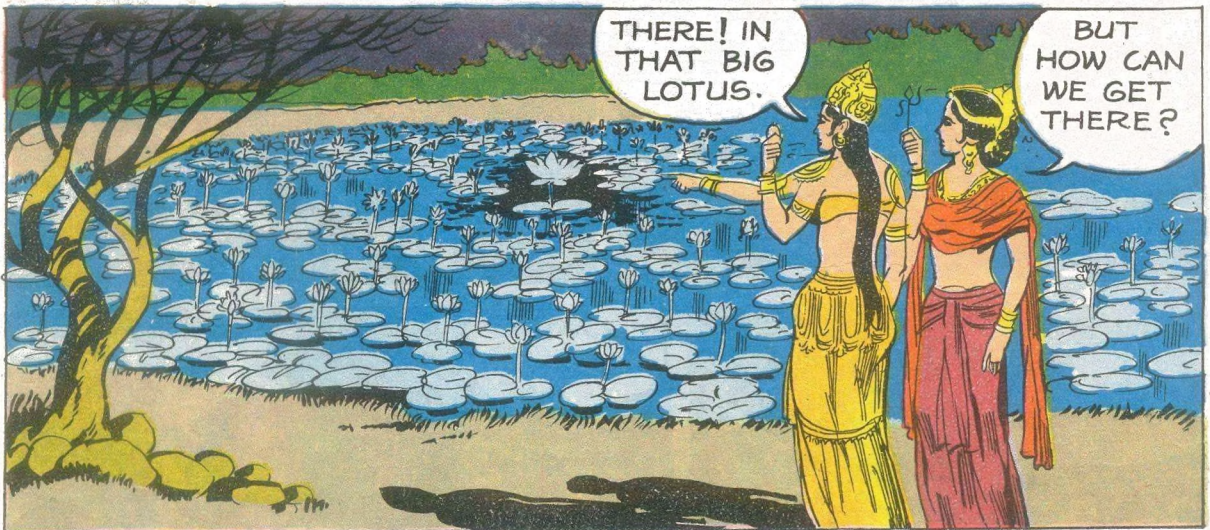
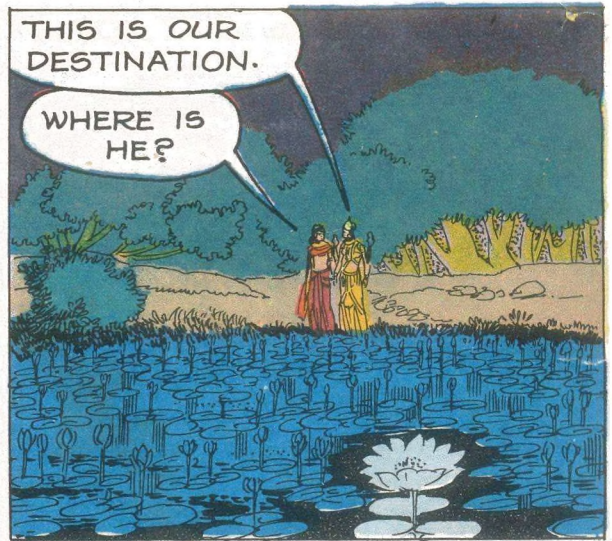
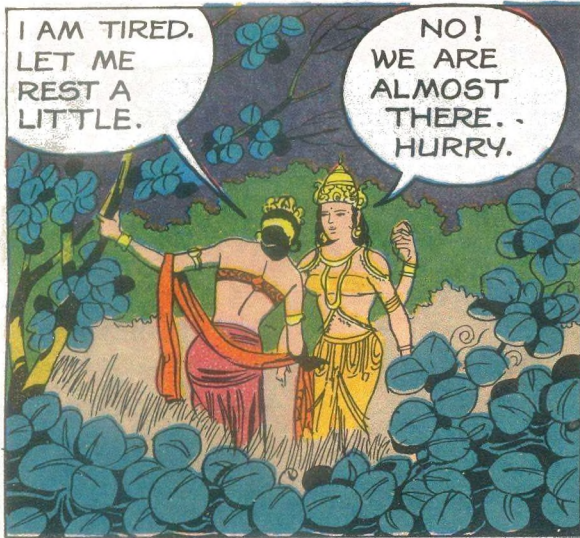


UPASHRUTI APPEARED BEFORE SHACHI.



UPASHRUTI LED SHACHI INTO THE DARK NIGHT.





UPASHRUTI SLIT THE STEM. INSIDE COWERED A TINY INDRA.



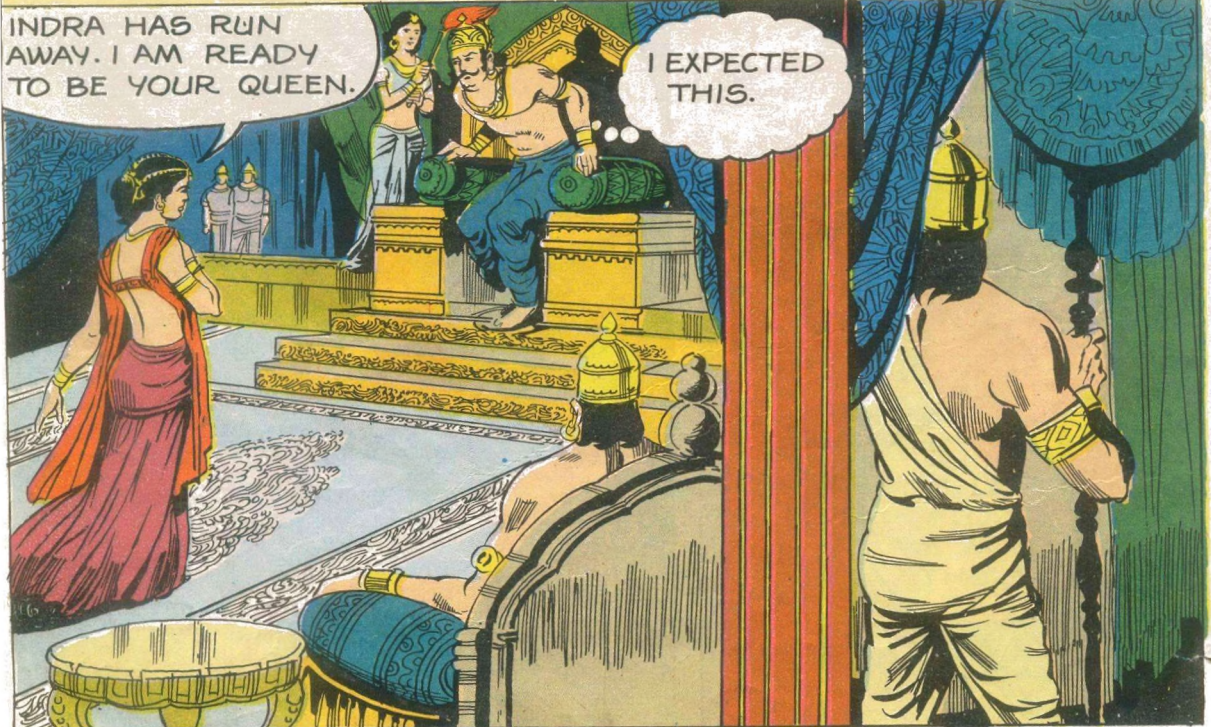
AFTER SHACHI HAD EXPLAINED THE WHOLE SITUATION —

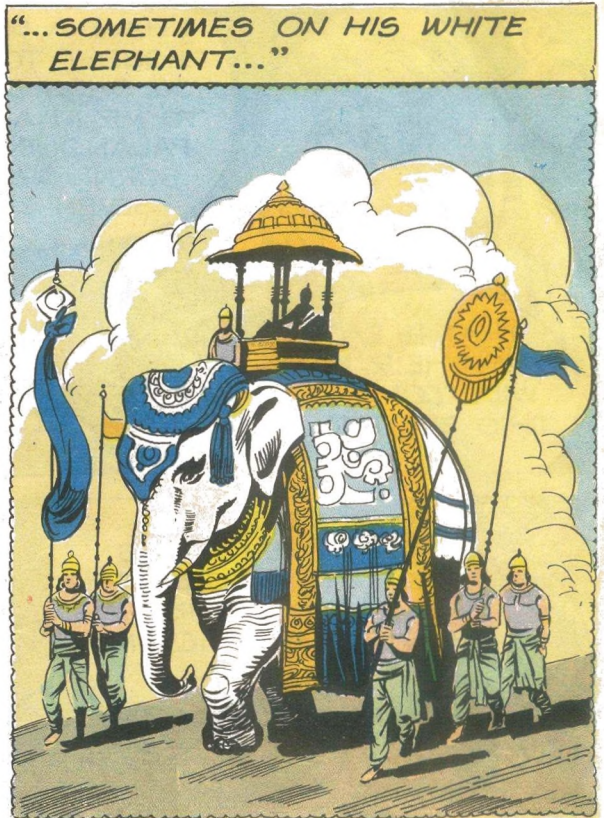


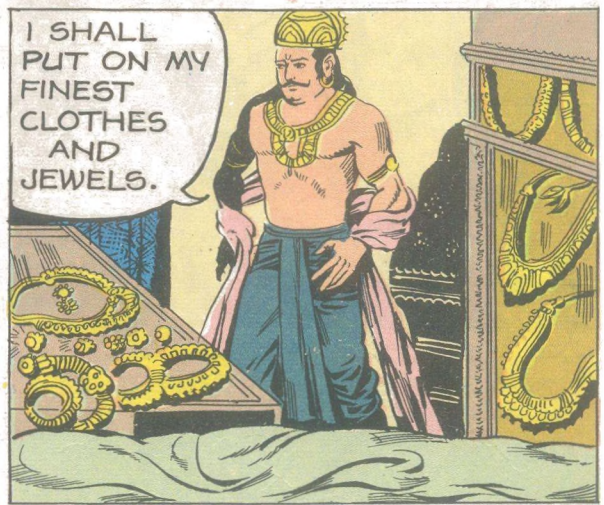
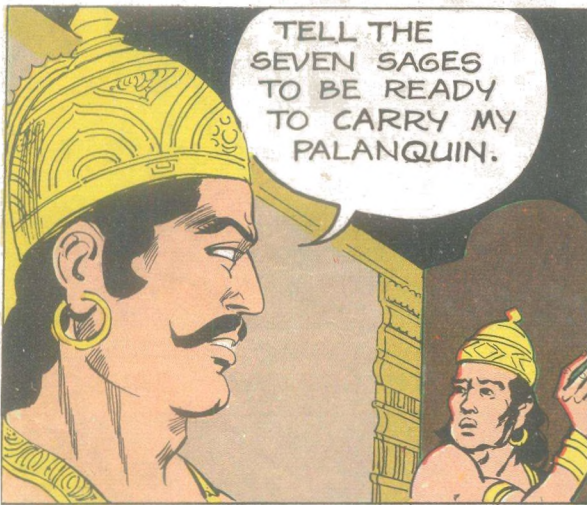
INDRA TOLD HER WHAT SHE SHOULD DO.



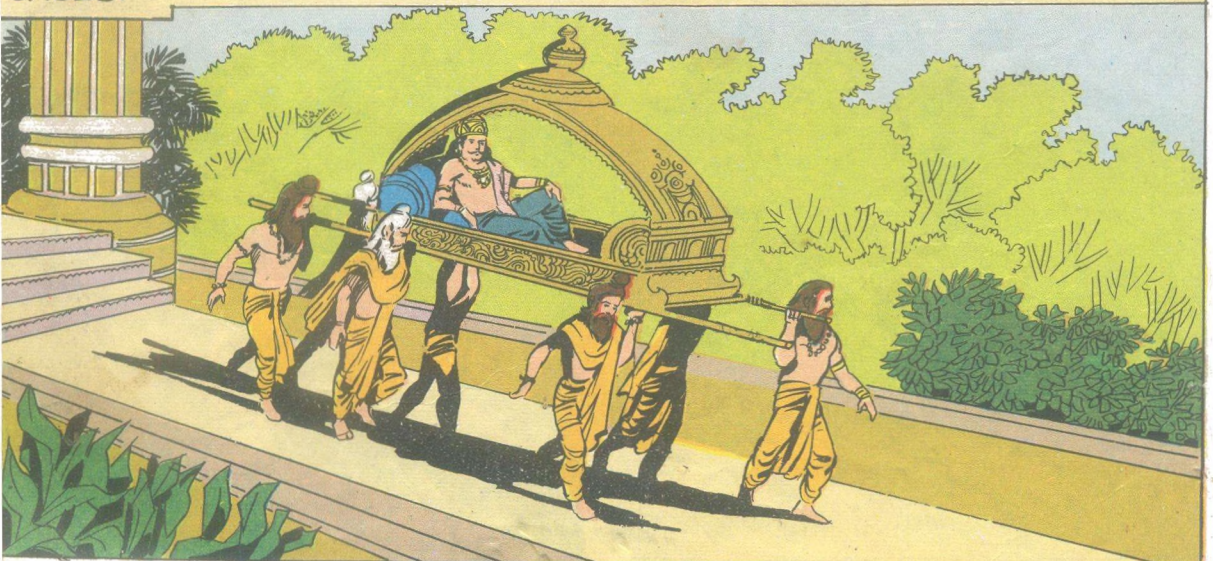
THE NEXT MORNING SHACHI WENT TO NAHUSHA.



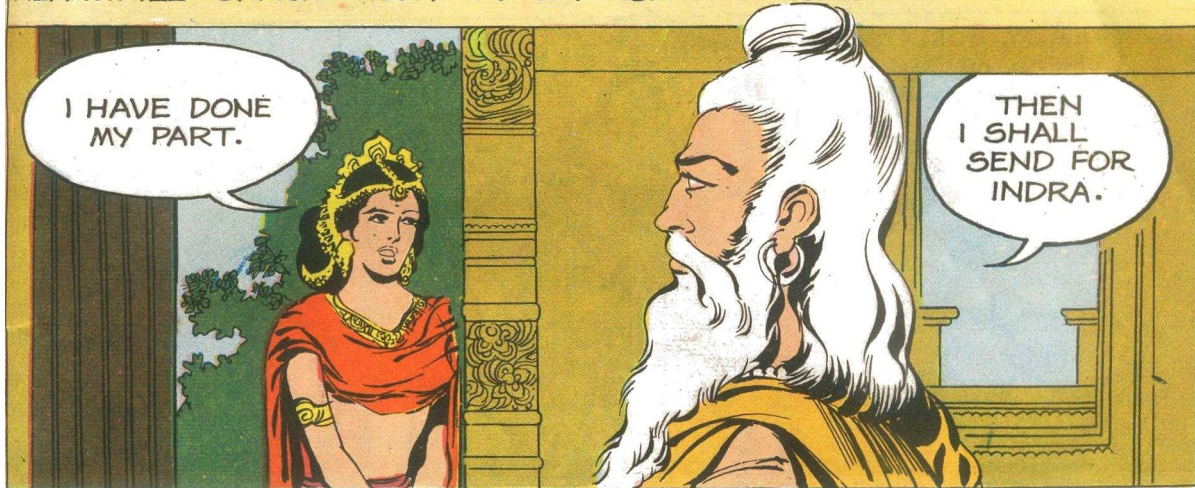




NAHUSHA SET OUT IN THE PALANQUIN BORNE BY THE SEVEN SAGES.



MEANWHILE SHACHI WENT TO BRIHASPATI'S HOUSE.



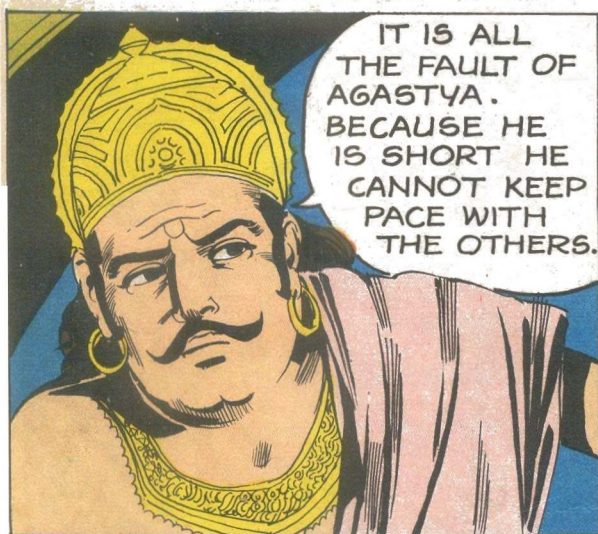
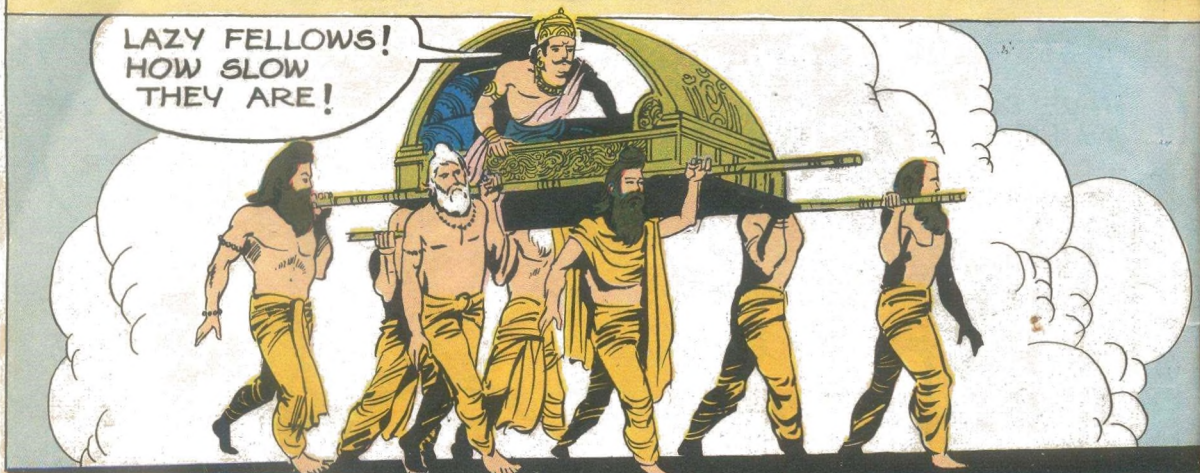
BRIHASPATI INVOKED AGNI IN A SACRIFICE.



AGNI CALLED THE DEVAS.



AT THAT MOMENT NAHUSHA WAS ON HIS WAY TO SHACHI'S PALACE.

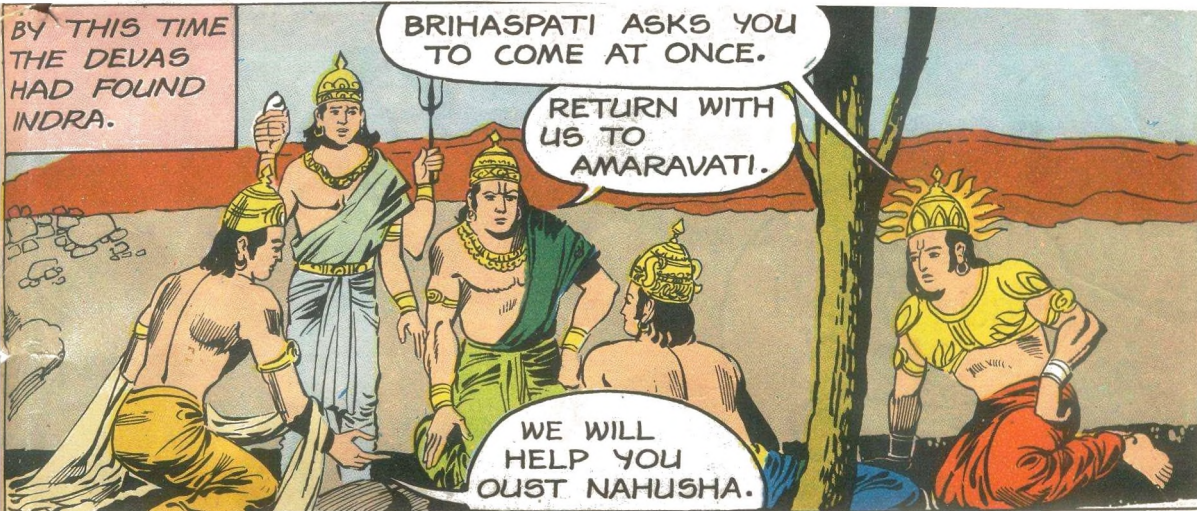


WHEN NAHUSHA KICKED HIM, AGASTYA BECAME ANGRY.

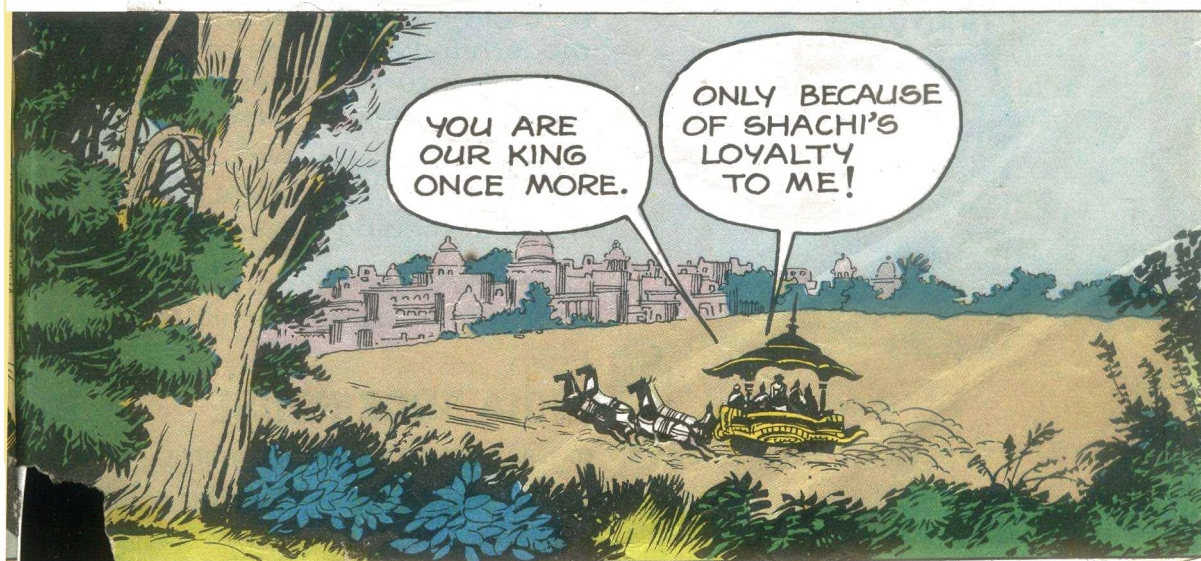


* MOVE ON. ALSO SNAKE.

30 ** MAY YOU BECOME A SNAKE



JUST THEN AGASTYA CAME HURRYING UP.





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